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THE MUNI MEMO

OF THE PEOPLE, BY THE PEOPLE, FOR THE PEOPLE OF THE SAN FRANCISCO MUNICIPAL RAILWAY

Safety Awards Banquet Set for Mid-August

The Seventh Annual Safe Driver Awards Banquet will be held on Friday, August 17, at the Presidio Officers Club, with no-host cocktails at 6:00 p.m. and dinner at 7:00 p.m.

This year, 173 of Muni's 1790 drivers have earned Safe Driver Awards for 15 to 30 years of accident-free driving, and Mayor Art Agnos has designated the week of August 13 to 17 as Muni Safe Driver Week in San Francisco.

The event has been organized, as it has been for the past six years, by the Joint Labor Management Board, a cooperative program of Muni and the Transport Workers Union, Local 250-A. Three union and three management members of the JLMB's Health and Morale Task Force are working hard to ensure that this year's event will be a great success. The banquet is funded by donations to the Community Affairs Department Awards Fund.

This will be the second year that Muni will be presenting the Safe Driver of the Year Award. Seven individual

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Muni to Usher Crowds to Festival 2000

For 23 days in October, San Francisco will become the cultural capital of the world. That's when Festival 2000 will take place, billed as an "unprecedented celebration of contemporary multicultural arts." The dynamic arts of the African-American, Hispanic/Latino, Asian, Pacific Islander and Native American will fill the city's galleries, theatres, community centers, parks, neighborhoods and streets October 6-28—and Muni will take you there.

The American Indian Dance Theatre is just one of many performances you can see at Festival 2000.

Fifty separate, exciting events featuring over 1,000 performers will take place, and 30 art galleries will present exhibitions throughout the Bay Area. Fifteen new works in music, dance, theatre, performance art, and film and video, by artists commissioned especially for Festival 2000, will make their world premieres.

Festival 2000 will present five stimulating series, designed to create an awareness of the beauty and heritage of a diverse group of artists from home and abroad: The "2000 Series" forges new frontiers in the performing arts with 22 works especially commissioned for the Festival. The "Joyful Noise Series" takes foot-stomping music to the streets and parks of San Francisco. The "Celebration Series" presents artists of national and international prominence in partnership with local arts organizations. "Expressions" illuminates contemporary images of America through film, video, murals, photography and gallery exhibitions. The "Forum on the American Aesthetic" offers an exchange of ideas through panels, lectures and workshops, focusing on the changing face

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Management Message

Planning for the Future

Abraham Lincoln said, "The dogmas of the quiet past are inadequate to the stormy present. The occasion is piled high with difficulty, and we must rise with the occasion." As our case is new, so we must think and act anew. We must excel.

As we begin a new budget year, we must continue to strive for excellence in spite of our budget constraints. We continually strive internally for better conditions and a safer work environment. This year brings new challenges with the arrival of the 30-foot coaches, preparation for the J and F line startup, the anticipation of 50 new articulated coaches starting in early 1991. With the passage of the most recent Propositions, B, 108, 111, 116, there will be new opportunities for future expansion.

We must rise to the occasion and begin to prepare through strategic planning for a more diverse and technically advanced transit system of the future.

I would like to take this opportunity to personally thank each of you for your extraordinary effort last year (1989-90) in making Muni a successful transit organization. Each of your roles or jobs is important. Again congratulations and thank you.

Johnny B. Stein
Acting General Manager

Editor's Box

Dear Reader,
As you know if you read the July issue of the Muni Memo, there were three spelling errors—one in a headline and two in a photo caption, misprinting the names of PUC President Rodel Rodis and former Deputy General Manager of Engineering and Administration Jo Ivester. While it would be foolish to assert that errors will never occur again, I can tell you that I have added a number of steps to the editorial and proofreading process that should eliminate such glaring mistakes and ensure the quality of the Muni Memo in the future. My apologies to Rodel Rodis and Jo Ivester and to the Muni Memo readers who deserve and should expect the best quality in this publication.

Sincerely,

Anne Milner
Editor

Job File

5210 Senior Civil Engineer, $73,710 annually. File immediately at Civil Service, 558-3713. Deadline for regular applications is August 10, for supplemental, August 17. **5212 Principal Engineer,** $85,332 annually. Apply immediately. Same dates as above apply. **6250 Chief Electrical Inspector,** $59,124-$71,864 annually. File immediately at Civil Service, 558-2913. Receipt of applications may be closed at any time. **1444 Secretary I-Shorthand-** Airport Only, $23,062-$27,898 annually. Apply immediately through Civil Service or Airport Personnel, 876-2187. **2248 Assistant Director of Clinical Service II,** Adult

Service Mental Health Programs, $66,482-$80,808 annually. File immediately at Department of Public Health, 821-8084. **1705 Communications Dispatcher II,** SF Water Department, City Distribution, $1018–$1231 bi-weekly. Under supervision, operates a multiple-frequency radio base station for communication with mobile units in the field. Application forms may be obtained and submitted to PUC, Personnel, 1155 Market Street. File immediately. **1774 Head Photographer,** PUC, $34,554–41,886 annually. Apply immediately to Civil Service. Promotive will close August 10. The following job announcements are anticipated for August: **1771 Media Production Specialist, 2594 Employee Assistance Counselor, 5206 Associate Civil Engineer, 5208 Civil Engineer, 7213 Plumber Supervisor I, 7345 Electrician, 7367 Radio Technician.** For these and other City positions, call the Civil Service Hotline at 558-4496 or the PUC Hotline at 554-1669. Please note that Civil Service will move to 44 Gough Street as of August 14.

Employee Notice

The Personnel Department is working with an organization called New Ways to Work, whose goal is to increase opportunities for reduced and restructured work schedules and to ensure equity for those who choose them. The group provides information on worktime options as well as technical assistance and consulting. New Ways to Work may be helpful for those considering an alternative work schedule. For information, call Binnie Singh at PUC Personnel, 554-1603.

Awards

Photo: Carmen Magana

Photo: Carmen Magana

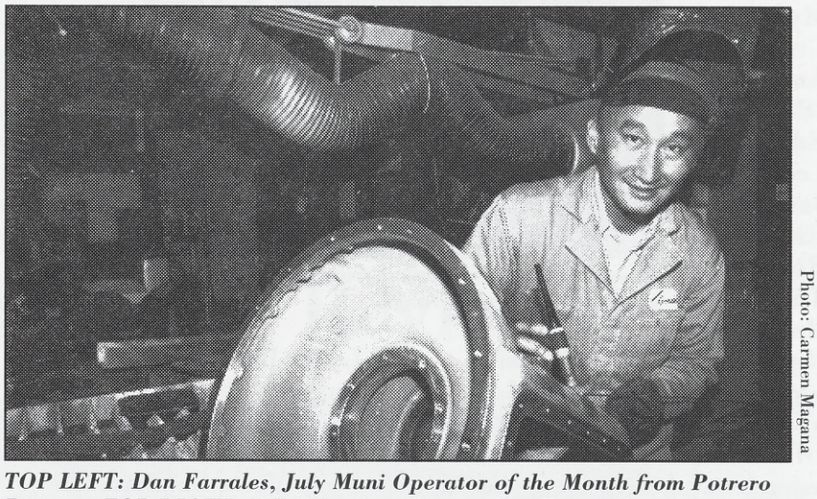

Photo: Carmen Magana

TOP LEFT: Dan Farrales, July Muni Operator of the Month from Potrero Division. TOP RIGHT: Bill Valentine, Outstanding Transit Supervisor of the Summer Quarter from the Safety and Training Department. BOTTOM: Gordon Wong, July Maintenance Worker of the Month from Woods Division.

Congrats!

The Divisional Operators of the Month for July were:

Cable Car:	Richard Junsch
Flynn:	Lena Wright
Green:	Henry Fortune
Kirkland:	Sik Kwan Chau
Potrero:	Roberto Guzman
Presidio:	Gordon Wong
Woods:	Albert Sherman

News

1990 Gold Awards in Process

On June 8, Muni began handing out the 1990 Gold Awards. So far, the following people have received awards. **Power, Signals and Electronics:** Venancio Abrea, Luciano Alban, Myron Crews, Arthur D'Ettel, Edmond Lee, James Rich, Jose Rimando, Thomas Reid, Luis Ruiz, William Stewart, Tai Vuong **Deputy General Manager and Chief Maintenance Officer's and General Superintendent's Office Staff:** Louis Alvarez, Clarence Lewis, Stan Lipski, Emelio Ramirez, Steve Roja, Jeannie Taulealo, William Thompson, Tony Tufo **Station Agents:** Heidi Blanchfield, Kenneth Coleman, Geordis Conoly, Marie Creighton, Joseph Hickey, Stephanie Johnson, Herbert Yee **Station Agent Supervisors:** Pamela Johnson, Edmund Wong **Green Support Shops:** Raul Casares, Joseph Chew, Roy Christensen, Frank Fenton, Lester Lamug, Dwight Lum, Anthony Scerri, Siegfried Stuhl, Aaron Wilbur, Jamie Young **Green Electronics Shop:** John Dombkowski, Chris Fishel, William Hayward, Felix Molina, Robert Stanton, Ching-Wai (Tom) Tsui, Henry Vong. Congratulations!

Photo: Carmen Magana

Happy Gold Award winners from the station agent and supervisor ranks.

Summer Fun on BART

Once again BART has instituted its special Family Fare good for every weekend from July 1 through September 30. That means that an adult with a full fare ticket can take two children, 12 and under, on a BART trip anywhere around the Bay free—in other words, three for the price of one. Although there are no special deals for Muni employees, who needs them at this price?

SEIU Muni Chapter Elects New Officers

The following people have been elected as SEIU officers for the Fiscal Year 1990-91: Claire Zvanski—President, Pegge Fields—Vice President, Helen Davis—Secretary, Miriam Regidor—Treasurer, Jacki Smith—Membership Development Co-Chair, Yolanda Paige—Membership Development, Co-Chair, Pauline Perea—Entertainment Committee Co-Chair, Greg Williams—Entertainment Committee Co-Chair. Although all these officers work at 949 Presidio, they were elected to serve all Muni locations. The Muni Chapter is dedicated to developing better communications with all Muni locations. If you are interested in electing a steward at your work location, call Claire Zvanski at 923-6120 or Field Representative Kathryn Haymes at 673-8755.

Food for Public Transit Thought

The average automobile produces 20 pounds of carbon dioxide for every gallon of gas it burns. Cars produce one-fifth of all the carbon dioxide emitted in the United States.

How You Can Keep California Moving

Imagine: Traffic flows smoothly. Stress-free commuters arrive on time. And Californians breathe air as fresh as a sea breeze.

A fantasy? Not if we work together. Traffic experts tell us we could have it all if each of us would ride share just a couple of days a week.

On Wednesday, October 3, to demonstrate what could be, thousands of commuters have pledged to leave their cars at home and catch the bus, a train or ferry, join a carpool or a vanpool, ride a bike or walk to work.

It's called Keep California Moving Day and it's the highlight of a week-long statewide campaign called California Rideshare Week. Governor George Deukmejian has proclaimed October 1 through 5 California Rideshare Week. The Governor explains, "Increased public awareness of the benefits of ridesharing will help to ensure a healthier environment for this and future generations."

Sponsors of this year's efforts anticipate hundreds of thousands of commuters will send in a pledge card promising their participation. Everyone who pledges not to drive alone on October 3 will be eligible for an exciting array of prizes — including a fabulous vacation to Hawaii or Germany!

When you participate, you come out a winner all the way:

You get a break from driving. And you can save as much as $2000 a year in fuel, vehicle wear and tear, auto maintenance and parking fees!

We all get a break from traffic. And by using transit, carpools or vanpools, each commuter gains extra time to read, relax or sleep.

Best of all, our environment wins! So why not join the millions of commuters who have already pledged to "Keep California Moving?" You've got nothing to lose but smog, stress and high gas and insurance bills!

Trolley Festival Revisited

For a brief moment on the Fourth of July, the San Francisco Historic Trolley Festival was revived when four of the vintage cars traveled up and down Market Street as a special Independence Day treat.

The Boat Tram, the Milan Car, Muni Car 130, and Muni PCC 1006 greeted about 2000 passengers who packed the cars for every trip. Plans call for bringing the cars back on Labor Day for another one-day revival.

The summer-long Trolley Festival, which was a San Francisco attraction from 1983-1987 prior to the Market Street Reconstruction Project, was called off this year due to funding problems. The Market Street Railway, a private non-profit support group for the Trolley Festival, generously provided the funding for the July 4th event.

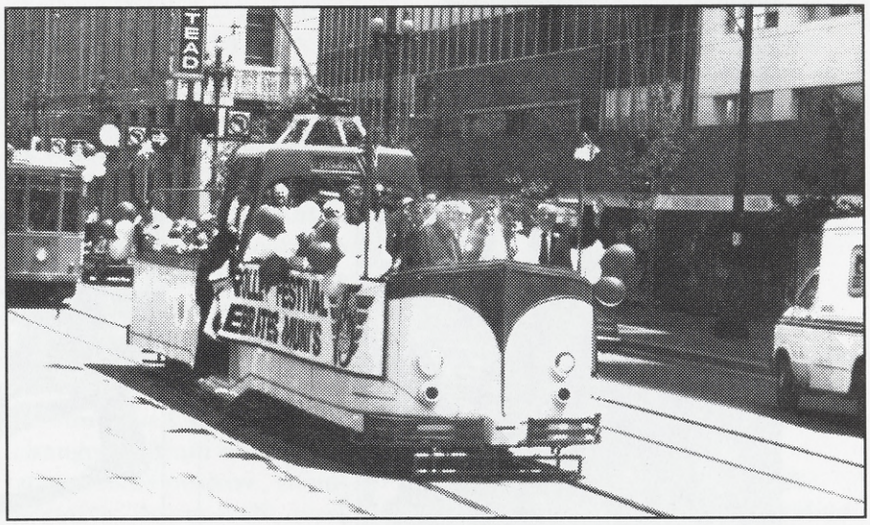

Photo: Bill Owyang

The Boat Tram from Blackpool, England, carried passengers once again for a mini Trolley Festival on July 4.

News

AC/BART Plus Muni Ticket Extended

The "AC/BART Plus Muni" Ticket Program, originally begun after the October 17 earthquake, has been extended indefinitely. The pass is a combined BART ticket and AC Transit and Muni pass, giving a big discount to passengers who regularly ride AC or Muni to or from BART. The ticket has various values based on a passenger's BART fare needs and is valid for a half-month period, beginning on the 1st or 16th of the month. On Muni, it is treated the same as a Fast Pass except that it is not good for free rides on BART within San Francisco.

Tickets are available in SF at the ticket sales booths at the Montgomery and Embarcadero BART stations on the five days preceding each half-month period from 6:30 to 9:00 a.m. and from 4:00 to 6:30 p.m. At Montgomery station they are also available from 11:30 to 1:30 p.m.

Photo: Carmen Magana

A look at Market Street shows just how busy Muni is on any day on San Francisco's "transit thoroughfare."

Photo: Carmen Magana

The 30-foot bus poses with Muni's finest. From left to right: Nathan Grief, Equipment Engineering; Jaimie Levin, Community Affairs; Acting General Manager Johnny Stein; Acting Deputy General Manager and Chief Transportation Officer Angelo Figone; Bob Callwell, Community Affairs; Bob Highfill, Equipment Engineering; Jill Thompson, PUC General Manager's staff; Tom Rickert, Elderly and Handicapped Programs; and Sal Cristales, Equipment Engineering.

Photo: Carmen Magana

The old and the new! Muni's White gasoline coach from 1939 pays its respects to the new 30-foot coach from Bus Industries of America at inauguration ceremonies at Coit Tower on July 6. Forty-five of the new buses will be in service replacing the old American Motors General fleet.

Unsung Hero

Nick Zaboukas

Cable Car Maintenance Superintendent

Background: Nick is another one of those rare birds, a third generation native San Franciscan. In fact, his maternal ancestors came to San Francisco from New York in a covered wagon in 1851. Nick was born in Noe Valley at 29th and Castro, attended grammar school at St. Paul's on Church Street, then went on to graduate from Mission High. He attended City College for two years studying economics and business.

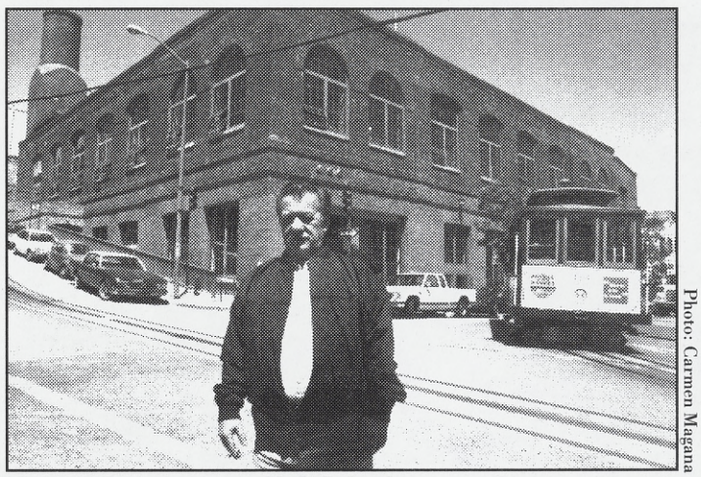

Photo: Carmen Magana

Nick Zaboukas

Career: Prior to coming to work for the City, Nick was an apprentice carpet layer and a truck driver. He then started his own business managing a mechanics shop in a service station, before being hired as a garageman in 1959 for the Purchasing Department's Central Shops on Quint Street. He then went on to work for the SFPD, maintaining police cars and motorcycles. In 1964, he was hired as an electric transit service worker for Presidio Shop. Over the years, he moved from Presidio to Cable Car, back to Presidio, and then to Potrero in 1976, when he worked on the new Flyer trolley-bus modification program, spending three months in Canada to study quality control for the new trolleys. He was subsequently promoted to the positions of Electric Transit Mechanic Assistant Supervisor, Supervisor I and Shop Supervisor at Potrero, and Shift Supervisor at Presidio. In 1987, he became the maintenance superintendent at Cable Car.

Family: Nick has been married to his wife, Yvonne, for 13 years. Yvonne is a nurse who supervises the office of a cataract surgeon. Nick has a daughter, Sandra, age 20, by a previous marriage.

Outside Interests: Nick invests in real estate, enjoys gambling in Reno and Las Vegas, and going duck and pheasant hunting. He lives in Concord and says going home to his house and pool is like going on vacation every weekend after being in the City.

Comments: I've seen many changes at Muni over the years, some positive, some negative. But overall, even though there is constant change, there is no change. Computers and graffiti are the main things that didn't exist when I started working for the City.

Riders Speak

To Whom It May Concern:
I first met Mr. James Whitman on June 18, 1990, while taking my 13-year-old daughter to St. Ignatius College Prep on 37th Avenue for the first day of summer school. The 48 Quintara arrived at its scheduled time. Mr. Whitman opened his bus door to us with a smile and a greeting of "Good morning, and how are you doing?" Needless to say I was quite surprised and pleased, since I was feeling a little anxious and concerned about our daughter eventually taking the 48 so early in the morning all the way to 37th Avenue by herself.

As we continued our ride, I noticed his demeanor was the same with each passenger as they got on the bus. His behavior never wavered. I came to the conclusion that here was a man who actually enjoyed his job. On Thursday, June 21, we decided it was time to trust our daughter's instincts and Muni to get her to school safely. It helped tremendously to know that Mr. Whitman was there to make sure our child arrived safely to her destination. Furthermore, he went out of his way to make suggestions on how she could get back home without taking three buses. Finally, I would like to say it is a credit to the Municipal Railway to have individuals like Mr. James represent your corporation. It's good business not only for native San Franciscans like myself, but also for the tourist industry.

I sincerely hope you take this nomination into consideration, since he is one of the most refreshing drivers I've met in a long time.

Sincerely,
Bertila Garcia

Festival 2000

Continued from page 1

of the American cultural landscape.

As a pilot project in San Francisco, Festival 2000 will provide a blueprint for supporting and assimilating the multi-cultural arts into the mainstream of the larger community. And what better place than San Francisco to do it? According to 1988 estimates, 60% of the city's population are Black, Latino, Asian, Pacific Islander or Native American.

Most Festival 2000 events will be easily accessible by Muni, with bus stops within a block of most venues. For example, Sole Night, with dance performances by the American Indian Dance Theatre, DanceBrazil, and Muntu Dance Theatre of Chicago will take place at the Opera House on October 6, Opening Night, accessible by the 5, 42, 47 or 49 lines. The same lines will take you to Davies Symphony Hall on October 14 to hear "Sense Us," a musical premiere fusing traditional and contemporary music and poetry, with performances by Bobby McFerrin's Voicestra, Max Roach and Sonia Sanchez. On October 23, "Uncle Tom's Cabin," reinterpreted by playwright Ntozake Shange and performed by the San Francisco Mime Troupe, will begin at the Lorraine Hansberry Theatre on Sutter. The 2, 3, and 4 lines can get you there. On October 14, Ali Akbar Khan will perform at the Asian Art Museum, accessible by the 5, 44 and 71 lines. This is just a small sampling of what Muni lines to take to Festival 2000. There's something for everyone and Muni will see you to practically every door. For more information and a calendar of events, call (415) 864-4237.

Award Banquet

Continued from page 1

awards (one for each operating division) will be presented annually to operators who have driven the longest without an accident over a three-year period.

The evening promises to be a fun-filled one, especially if large numbers of Muni employees turn out to honor our safe drivers. Get your tickets now, at $25 apiece, from either Division Superintendents or Division Chairpersons.

Following drinks, dinner and the presentation of awards, a dance will be held. Don't miss this important Muni event.

Letter to the Editor

Dear Anne Milner,

I read the article on Overhead Lines May/June, and I must admit it was well written, but it did not tell the whole story. Everyone seems to forget the persons that supply the power. The Line Department does an excellent job maintaining the lines and related equipment for the LRVs and trolley coaches. The thing that is forgotten is, "who supplies the electrical power and who maintains the equipment that supplies that power to the system."

There are 19 electrical substations at various locations throughout the city that are operated and monitored 24 hours a day by twelve operating personnel. Each substation's equipment is maintained by five technicians. This ensures that there is a constant supply of power to the system at all times. This is the heart of the system. There can be no operations without an electrical supply. Write something about the people in the background sometime. We would thank you for it.

James Rich,
Power Plant Supervisor

Editor's Response:
Thanks for the information. We will certainly do a story on the people who supply the power in the near future.

Riders Speak *continued*

Hyde St. Heroes

Reprinted from the SF Chronicle.

Editor—Please convey heartfelt thanks to neighbor Brad Jann who was frantically searching for a parking space and to Muni employee Steve Dickson (gripman 0556) on his first run on the Hyde Street cable car early last Saturday morning. Both of them noticed smoke coming from our apartment building, called the Fire Department, rang our doorbell and ran into the building to wake us up and help us out of the building.

The person who set the fire caused destruction and depression, but Brad and Steve are certainly heroes who caused us to give thanks for their bravery. Thanks again guys....

Joyce Myers
San Francisco

Credits

The Muni Memo is published by the Community Affairs Department of Muni. Contributions and comments may be addressed to the MUNI Memo, Room 238, 949 Presidio Avenue, San Francisco, CA 94115, telephone 923-6162.

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